

REMARKS

The Final Office Action mailed October 3, 2003, has been received and reviewed. Claims 1 through 30 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 through 30 stand rejected. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the present response.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1 through 30 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 34 of U.S. Patent No. 5,933,713.

Claims 1 through 30 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 34 of U.S. Patent No. 6,204,095.

In order to avoid further expenses and time delay, Applicant elects to expedite the prosecution of the present application by filing Terminal Disclaimers to obviate the double patenting rejections in compliance with 37 CFR §1.321 (b) and (c). Applicant's filing of the Terminal Disclaimers should not be construed as acquiescence of the Examiner's double patenting or obviousness-type double patenting rejections. Attached are the Terminal Disclaimers and accompanying fees.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1 through 30 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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